



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/814,050

03/22/2001

Hisashi Ohki

1614.1149

2534

21171

7590

07/28/2004

STAAS & HALSEY LLP  
SUITE 700  
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, JENNIFER T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2674

8

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/814,050

Applicant(s)

OHKI ET AL.

Examiner

Jennifer T Nguyen

Art Unit

2674

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-82 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-82 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2, 4, 5, 7.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-17, 19-37, 39, 40, 43-52, 56, 57, 59, 60, 62, 63, 65-69, 71, 72, 75-77, and 79-82 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitazawa et al. (Japan Patent No.: 09-026832) in view of Suso et al. (Patent No.: US 6,466,202).

Regarding claims 1, 21, and 43, referring to Figs. 1-3, Kitazawa teaches a status display control unit for displaying status information of an electronic equipment which includes a main display (10) section and an auxiliary display section (20), comprising: a controller (11) displaying data in the auxiliary display section (20) [0014], [0034], and [0040]-[0046].

Kitazawa differs from claims 1, 21, and 43 in that he does not specifically teach displaying standby transition time. However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches displaying standby transition time (col. 4, lines 5-12, col. 5, lines 13-26, and col. 7, lines 19-33). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying standby transition time as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

Regarding claims 2, 22, and 44, referring to Figs. 1-3, Kitazawa teaches a status display

Art Unit: 2674

control unit for displaying status information of an electronic equipment which includes a main display (10) section and an auxiliary display section (20), comprising: a controller (11) displaying data in the auxiliary display section (20) [0014], [0034], and [0040]-[0046].

Kitazawa differs from claims 2, 22, and 44 in that he does not specifically teach displaying a next electronic mail check time. However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches a next electronic mail check time (col. 4, lines 5-12, col. 5, lines 13-26, col. 7, lines 19-33, and col. 10, lines 10-45). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the next electronic mail check time as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

Regarding claims 3, 23, 45, 66, 79, and 81, referring to Figs. 1-3, Kitazawa teaches a status display control unit for displaying status information of an electronic equipment which includes a main display (10) section and an auxiliary display section (20), comprising: a controller (11) displaying data in the auxiliary display section (20) [0014], [0034], and [0040]-[0046].

Kitazawa differs from claims 3, 23, 45, 66, 79, and 81 in that he does not specifically teach displaying a greeting message by characters. However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches displaying a greeting message by characters (col. 4, lines 5-12, col. 5, lines 13-26, and col. 7, lines 19-33). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate displaying a greeting message by characters as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

Art Unit: 2674

Regarding claims 4, 24, and 46, referring to Figs. 1-3, Kitazawa teaches a status display control unit for displaying status information of an electronic equipment which includes a main display (10) section and an auxiliary display section (20), comprising: a controller (11) displaying data in the auxiliary display section (20) [0014], [0034], and [0040]-[0046].

Kitazawa differs from claims 4, 24, and 46 in that he does not specifically teach displaying a recording medium playing state. However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches displaying portable recording medium playing state (col. 4, lines 5-12, col. 5, lines 13-26, col. 7, lines 19-33, and col. 9, lines 49-53). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying standby transition time as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

Regarding claims 5, 6, 25, 26, and 47 referring to Figs. 1-3, Kitazawa teaches a status display control unit for displaying status information of an electronic equipment which includes a main display (10) section and an auxiliary display section (20), comprising: a controller (11) displaying data in the auxiliary display section (20) [0014], [0034], and [0040]-[0046].

Kitazawa differs from claims 5, 6, 25, 26, and 47 in that he does not specifically teach displaying a communication connection status of the electronic equipment. However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches displaying a communication connection status of the electronic equipment (col. 4, lines 5-12, col. 5, lines 13-26, col. 7, lines 19-33, and col. 9, lines 49-53). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying the communication connection status of the electronic

Art Unit: 2674

equipment as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

Regarding claims 7-17, 27-37, 48-52, and 69, referring to Figs. 1-3, Kitazawa teaches a status display control unit for displaying status information of an electronic equipment which includes a main display (10) section and an auxiliary display section (20), comprising: a controller (11) displaying data in the auxiliary display section (20) [0014], [0034], and [0040]-[0046].

Kitazawa differs from claims 7-17, 27-37, 48-51, and 69 in that he does not specifically teach displaying indicating a reception of an electronic mail by the electronic equipment. However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches characters, displaying indicating a reception of an electronic mail by the electronic equipment (col. 4, lines 5-12, col. 5, lines 13-26, col. 7, lines 19-33, col. 9, lines 49-53, and from col. 10, line 32, to col. 11, line 62). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying the communication connection status of the electronic equipment as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

Regarding claims 19, 20, 39, 40, 65, 71, 72, and 75-77, referring to Figs. 1-3, Kitazawa teaches a status display control unit for displaying status information of an electronic equipment which includes a main display (10) section and an auxiliary display section (20), comprising: a controller (11) displaying data in the auxiliary display section (20) wherein the electronic equipment further comprising: a main body; and a lid member which is provided on the main body and capable of taking an open position and a closed position, said main display section

Art Unit: 2674

being provided on the lid member and being visible only in the open position of the lid member, said auxiliary display section being provided on the main body at a position which is visible in the closed position of the lid member [0014], [0034], and [0040]-[0046].

Kitazawa differs from claims 19, 20, 39, 40, 65, 71, 72, and 75-77 in that he does not specifically teach displaying the status information. However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches the status information (col. 4, lines 5-12, col. 5, lines 13-26, col. 7, lines 19-33, col. 9, lines 49-53, and from col. 10, line 32, to col. 11, line 62). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying the status information as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

Regarding claims 56, 57, 59, 60, 62, , 63, 67, 68, 80, and 82, referring to Figs. 1-3, Kitazawa teaches a status display control unit for displaying status information of an electronic equipment which includes a main display (10) section and an auxiliary display section (20), comprising: a controller (11) displaying data in the auxiliary display section (20) [0014], [0034], and [0040]-[0046].

Kitazawa differs from claims 56, 57, 59, 60, 62, 63, 67, 68, 80, and 82 in that he does not specifically teach displaying contents set in correspondence with time. However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches characters, displaying contents set in correspondence with time (col. 4, lines 5-12, col. 5, lines 13-26, col. 7, lines 19-33, col. 9, lines 49-53, and from col. 10, line 32, to col. 11, line 62). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying contents set in

Art Unit: 2674

correspondence with time as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

3. Claims 18, 38, 53, 70, and 78 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitazawa et al. (Japan Patent No.: 09-026832).

Regarding claims 18, 38, 53, 70, and 78, referring to Figs. 1-3, Kitazawa teaches a status display control unit for displaying status information of an electronic equipment which includes a main display (10) section and an auxiliary display section (20), comprising: a controller (11) displaying data in the auxiliary display section (20) [0014], [0034], and [0040]-[0046].

Kitazawa differs from claims 18, 38, 53, 70, and 78 in that he does not specifically teach displaying a position of a volume adjusting knob. However, it would have been obvious to obtain displaying a position of a volume adjusting knob in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

4. Claims 41, 42, 54, 55, 73, and 74 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitazawa et al. (Japan Patent No.: 09-026832) in view of Suso et al. (Patent No.: US 6,466,202) and further in view of Klein (Patent No.: 6,014,141).

Regarding claims 41, 42, 54, 55, 73, and 74, the combination of Kitazawa and Suso differs from claim 41, 42, 54, 55, 73, and 74 in that it does not specifically teach an auxiliary display section provided on the main body at a position only visible in the open position of the lid member. However, referring to Fig. 1, Klein teaches an auxiliary display section (50) provided on the main body at a position only visible in the open position of the lid member (col. 2, lines 55-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the auxiliary display section provided on the main



Art Unit: 2674

body at a position only visible in the open position of the lid member as taught by Klein in the system of the combination of Kitazawa and Suso in order to provide a display system with increasing display area.

5. Claims 58, 61, and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitazawa et al. (Japan Patent No.: 09-026832) in view of Meins et al. (Patent No.: 6,587,700).

Regarding claims 58, 61, and 64, referring to Figs. 1-3, Kitazawa teaches a status display control unit for displaying status information of an electronic equipment which includes a main display (10) section and an auxiliary display section (20), comprising: a controller (11) displaying data in the auxiliary display section (20) [0014], [0034], and [0040]-[0046].

Kitazawa differs from claims 58, 61, and 64 in that he does not specifically teach displaying information related to input of a password of the electronic equipment. However, referring to Figs. 2-5 and 7, Meins teaches displaying information related to input of a password of the electronic equipment (from col. 10, line 54 to col. 11, line 11). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying information related to input of a password of the electronic equipment as taught by Meins in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered to pertinent applicant's disclosure.

Macor (U.S. Patent No. 5,841,849) teaches user interface for personal telecommunication devices.

Art Unit: 2674

Tomimori (U.S. Patent No. 6,456,841) teaches mobile communication apparatus notifying user of reproduction waiting information effectively.

Suso et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,069,648) teaches information communication terminal device.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Jennifer T. Nguyen** whose telephone number is **703-305-3225**. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Richard A Hjerpe** can be reach at **703-305-4709**.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks


Washington, DC. 20231

**Or faxed to: 703-872-9306 (for Technology Center 2600 only)**

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, sixth-floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.

Jennifer T. Nguyen  
07/21/2004

  
**REGINA LIANG**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**